

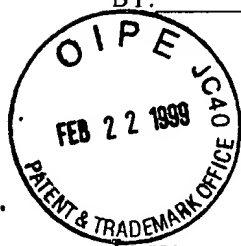
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

BY:

John C. Marks

DATE:

2/19/99



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:	Reissue Application No. 08/999,730	: Group Art Unit: 3613
		:
		:
Filed:	December 24, 1997	:
		:
Patent No.:	5,509,546	: Examiner:
Granted:	April 23, 1996	: S. Joseph Morano
Patentee:	Robert H. Staat	:
		:
Title:	Magnetically-Actuated Coupler For Model Railroad Cars	: Attorney Docket : No. 7311-24RE

DECLARATION AS TO LOSS OF LETTERS PATENT (37C.F.R. §1.178)

The undersigned Assignee of the entire interest in the above-mentioned Letters Patent, hereby declares that Letters Patent No 5,509,546, granted to Robert H. Staat, on April 23, 1996, has been either lost or destroyed, that a diligent search was made for said patent in all places where the same would probably be found, if existing, and that the patent was not found.

The undersigned states that he is authorized to sign this document on behalf of the Assignee, that the evidentiary documents relating to the assignment of the above patent have been reviewed, and he certifies that, to the best of Assignee's knowledge and belief, title to the above patent is in Assignee by virtue of an Assignment recorded in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 20, 1996 at Reel 8231, starting at Frame 0460.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made

are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

BACHMANN INDUSTRIES, INC.

2-18-99
Date

Richard N. Maddox
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Senior Vice President, Sales and Marketing